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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION REPORT - WITHDRAWAL FROM IRAQ, ALTERNATIVE TO KYOTO PROTOCOL

PARIS - JULY 28, 2005

(A) SUBJECTS COVERED IN TODAY'S REPORT:

- [11.](#) WITHDRAWAL FROM IRAQ
- [12.](#) ALTERNATIVE TO KYOTO PROTOCOL

B) SUMMARY OF COVERAGE:

DOMESTIC STORIES MAKE THE FRONT PAGE OF MOST DAILIES TODAY: PRIME MINISTER DE VILLEPIN'S PRESS CONFERENCE AND THE VERDICTS IN BOTH THE LONG-RUNNING ANGERS TRIAL ON CHILD MOLESTATION AND RAPE AND THE MONT BLANC FIRE TRIAL. INTERNATIONAL STORIES FOCUS ON THE FIRST ARREST OF A SUSPECT IN THE BOTCHED LONDON BOMBINGS, ARIEL SHARON'S VISIT TO FRANCE AND IRAQ.

PRIME MINISTER DE VILLEPIN'S SECOND MONTHLY PRESS CONFERENCE IS REPORTED IN ALL NEWSPAPERS. MOST OF THEM NOTE THE TWO MAIN SUBJECTS: TERRORISM AND A CALL FOR 'ECONOMIC PATRIOTISM'.

GOOD COVERAGE OF SHARON'S VISIT TO PARIS HIGHLIGHTS SHARON'S INVITATION TO PRESIDENT CHIRAC TO VISIT HIM IN ISRAEL. IN AN INTERVIEW IN CATHOLIC LA CROIX, ROGER CUKIERMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL FOR JEWISH INSTITUTIONS OF FRANCE SAYS, "WE CAN CLEARLY SAY THAT FRANCE IS NOT ANTI-SEMITIC."

LEFT-OF-CENTER LIBERATION AND CATHOLIC LA CROIX BOTH DEVOTE THEIR EDITORIALS AND REPORTS ABOUT THE US WITHDRAWAL FROM IRAQ. "G.I.S AIM AT LEAVING IRAQ" HEADLINES LEFT-OF-CENTER LIBERATION WHILE LA CROIX READS "POLITICAL URGENCY IN IRAQ". EDWARD LUTTWAK, SENIOR FELLOW AT THE CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, IS INTERVIEWED IN LEFT-OF-CENTER LIBERATION AND SAYS: "THE US ARMY IS INCAPABLE OF CONTROLLING THE SITUATION." (SEE PART C)

BOTH ECONOMIC DAILIES REPORT ON THE "COUNTER PROPOSAL" TO KYOTO MADE BY THE U.S. AND AUSTRALIA. ECONOMIC LA TRIBUNE HEADLINES "THE UNITED STATES AND AUSTRALIA ARE PREPARING AN ALTERNATIVE TO KYOTO" WHILE LES ECHOS SAYS "GREENHOUSE GAS: A COMPETING PROJECT OF THE KYOTO PROTOCOL IN ELABORATION". (SEE PART C)

THE ARREST OF ONE OF THE PRESUMED AUTHORS OF THE BOTCHED ATTACKS IN LONDON, YACINE HASSAN OMAR, ON JULY 21ST IS FACTUALLY REPORTED IN SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS.

IN AN INTERVIEW TO CONSERVATIVE FRANCE SOIR, MAMADOU KOULIBALY, PRESIDENT OF THE IVORY COAST ASSEMBLY, DENOUNCES THE TERRORIST ATTACKS: 'EUROPEANS THINK. THEY ARE THE ONLY VICTIMS OF TERRORISM. IVORY COAST IS CONFRONTED WITH THE SAME PHENOMENON WHOSE ACTORS HAVE THE SAME OBJECTIVES: TO TERRORIZE THE POPULATIONS BY WEAKENING THE INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITIES.

(C) SUPPORTING TEXT/BLOCK QUOTES:

WITHDRAWAL FROM IRAQ

"THE JOB"

PATRICK SABATIER IN LEFT-OF-CENTER LIBERATION (07/28) "AMERICAN FORCES WILL LEAVE IRAQ ONLY 'WHEN THEIR JOB IS DONE' SWEARS PRESIDENT BUSH. THE TABOO WORD 'WITHDRAWAL' IS ON EVERYONE'S LIPS. IN FACT, THE WHITE HOUSE HAS NEVER STOPPED GETTING READY FOR IT. A MAJORITY OF AMERICANS HAVE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE BOYS WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO 'WIN' THE WAR. THIS IS NOT YET A MAJOR POLITICAL RISK FOR BUSH. BUT HE WANTS TO GET OUT, AND QUICKLY, OF WHAT HIS GENERALS CALL 'MUCK-UP' AS LONG AS IT DOES NOT LOOK LIKE AN AMERICAN DEFEAT. HE KNOWS THAT A HEAVY ATTACK AGAINST HIS TROOPS, AN INTERNATIONAL CRISIS OR THE UPRISING OF CIVIL WAR IN IRAQ COULD REQUIRE HIM TO CALL FOR A HASTY RETREAT INSTEAD OF A PROGRESSIVE AND ORGANIZED WITHDRAWAL. TODAY, THE 'JOB' IS ONLY TO MAKE THIS WITHDRAWAL FEASIBLE."

"THE DEBATE ON THE WITHDRAWAL IS STUCK IN THE UNITED STATES" PHILIPPE GRANGERAU IN LEFT-OF-CENTER LIBERATION WRITES "THE GOOD SOLDIERS FROM AMERICA ARE STARTING TO GIVE UP. A FORMER C.I.A. CHIEF, JOHN DEUTCH, ADVOCATES GETTING OUT OF THE IRAQI

TRAP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. PUBLIC OPINION STILL SUPPORTS THE WAR (AT 49%) WHILE 52% OF AMERICANS WOULD LIKE THEIR ARMY TO STAY IN IRAQ UNTIL THE COUNTRY IS 'STABILIZED' ACCORDING TO A PEW POLL . IF AMERICA IS STILL NOT READY TO WITHDRAW FROM IRAQ, IT IS ESSENTIALLY BECAUSE THIS IDEA IS CONSIDERED ANTI-PATRIOTIC, EVEN WITHIN THE DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION."

"POLITICAL URGENCY IN IRAQ"  
YVES PITETTE IN CATHOLIC LA CROIX (07/28) ` . WE FEEL THAT WASHINGTON IS IMPATIENT TO CONCRETIZE THE NEW IRAQI POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS, TO BE ADVANCED BY WAY OF THE REFERENDUM IN THE FALL, WOULD BE A REAL VICTORY IN THE RACE AGAINST THE CLOCK THAT THE AMERICANS AND THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT ARE LEADING AGAINST THE GUERILLA. . IN WASHINGTON, ONE WOULD LIKE TO CONVINCE (THE PUBLIC) OF THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE RETURN OF THE `BOYS' WHEN THE FALL 2006 ELECTIONS ARE ALREADY LOOMING IN THE BACKGROUND. AND IN BAGHDAD, ONE HOPES TO GIVE THE IRAQIS THE FEELING THAT THE ADOPTION OF THE NEW INSTITUTIONS WILL HASTEN THE AMERICANS' DEPARTURE . IRAQ IS A TOTALLY DISORGANIZED COUNTRY WHERE THE INHABITANTS FIRST OF ALL LONG FOR HAVING WATER AND ELECTRICITY. THESE OBJECTIVES REQUIRE A POLITICAL CONSENSUS, EVEN MINOR, WITHOUT WHICH NO PUBLIC SERVICE CAN WORK. THIS IS INDEED THE POINT THAT DONALD RUMSFELD CAME TO STRESS IN BAGHDAD."

#### KYOTO'S ALTERNATIVE

"THE UNITED STATES AND AUSTRALIA ARE PREPARING AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE KYOTO PROTOCOL" HEADLINES LAURENT CHEMINEAU IN ECONOMIC LA TRIBUNE. "MULTILATERALISM WILL BE DEMOLISHED AGAIN ON THE CLIMATE FRONT. AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES MAY REVEAL IN THE COMING DAYS THE CONTENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON GREENHOUSE GAS, CONSIDERED AS RESPONSIBLE FOR GLOBAL WARMING, THAT THEY HAVE BEEN DISCREETLY NEGOTIATING FOR A FEW MONTHS. AFTER THE G8 INITIATIVE AND ITS CLIMATE ACTION PLAN WITH UNCLEAR OUTLINES, THIS PROJECT IS EVEN MORE DISTURBING FOR THE KYOTO PROTOCOL'S FUTURE. EVEN THOUGH THIS PARTNERSHIP CANNOT BE PUT ON AN EQUAL FOOTING."

STAPLETON